

SRS UPDATE

NEWS FROM THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE • AUGUST 2005

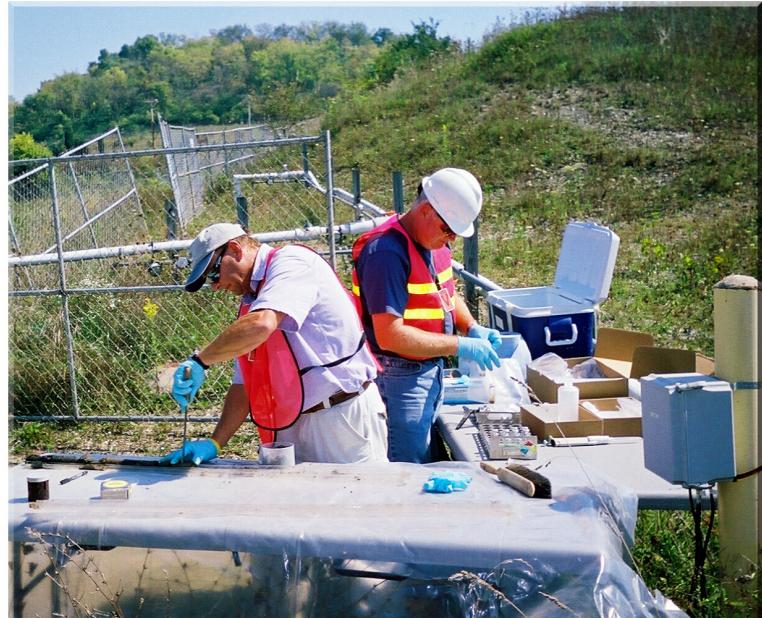
SRS-led program assists other DOE sites

Assistance to the Miamisburg Closure Project saves tens of millions

A program coordinated by the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) for the Department of Energy is helping sites across the complex address challenging environmental problems in innovative, cost-effective ways.

SRNL's Carol Eddy-Dilek provides technical coordination for the EM-23 Risk Reduction Assistance Program, which supports DOE closure sites, such as the Ohio Closure Sites and other DOE sites, by providing technical expertise and assistance on specific projects. "For sites that may not have the in-house technical expertise to address unique environmental barriers to successful site closure, this program provides a great way to harness the expertise available at DOE labs, universities and even the private sector to find the best, most cost-effective way to achieve site cleanup," Eddy-Dilek says.

The program identifies and contracts with experts from the DOE complex, academia and/or



SRNL employees Jay Noonkester (left) and Keith Hyde collect soil samples at the Miamisburg Closure Project.



Keith Hyde (left) and Jay Noonkester of SRNL collect dissolved hydrogen by the bubble strip method.

private industry to address the sites' needs.

Assistance to the Miamisburg Closure Project's (MCP) Operable Unit One resulted in tens of millions in cost savings. Other projects have produced more modest savings, along with improvements in health and safety, accelerated schedules and regulatory acceptance of innovative approaches.

From her office in Ohio, located near the Ohio Closure Sites that have benefited from the Program, Eddy-Dilek helps the sites define their needs, coordinates requests for assistance, and serves as a technical liaison to the requesting sites to help maintain continuity throughout the life of each technical assistance project.

In addition to its coordination role, SRNL is a key technical resource for the program, frequently providing or participating in assistance projects. This has led to other opportunities for the laboratory, as sites that have benefited from SRNL's participation hire the laboratory directly to provide additional assistance.

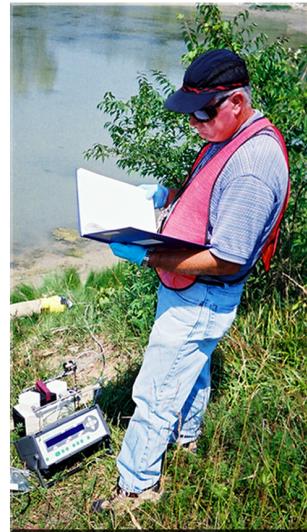
See page two for an example on how this program works.

SRS IN BRIEF

How DOE's EM-23 Risk Reduction Assistance Program works

The work for MCP Operable Unit One is a good example of how the program works.

Since 2002, the program has been helping to address cleanup of a Miamisburg landfill where the groundwater contains low concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). A technical assistance team, which included personnel from SRNL, other DOE sites and other federal entities, recommended appropriate remedies, suggesting combinations of technologies that included Soil Vapor Extraction, Pump and Treat, Monitored Natural Attenuation [which employs naturally occurring processes to remove contaminants], and others. Selection of the appropriate remedy would be based on subsequent sampling and site decisions about end state conditions. Next, a smaller SRNL-led team provided more specific recommendations; then SRNL personnel conducted field studies and analyses demonstrating that an approach that includes Monitored Natural Attenuation would result in the needed degree of cleanup, at a much lower cost than the original excavation approach. Throughout the process, SRNL and other assistance team members worked with MCP, its regulators and stakeholders to provide them the data necessary to enable informed acceptance of the new approach.



Keith Hyde measures gas concentrations inside a Landfill.

Facility simulation software forecasts tank farm conditions



Several members of the SpaceMan Plus™ support team and programmers are pictured here. Standing are Paul d'Entremont (from left), Sterling Robertson, Jason Vitali and Ameya Acharekar. Seated are Mark Hopkins, Hank Elder and Tommy Caldwell.

program called SpaceMan Plus™. It is the newest evolution of facility simulation software that realistically forecasts tank farm conditions. SpaceMan Plus™ (short for "space management plus") uses data from the Waste Characterization System to track 275 chemicals, radionuclides and tank properties in sludge, salt, supernate, suspended solids and interstitial liquids.

"It's like playing a game of strategy," says Mahoney, Manager of Systems Integration and Planning within the CBU's Planning Integration and Technology group. "You start out with a set strategy in mind, but you're not sure of the outcome until you run the model."

Planning a single, near-term waste transfer is complicated enough, but how do you plan tank farm activities 5, 10 or 20 years from now?

A team was assembled in the spring of 2004 to evaluate the complex effects of changing missions and facilities within the Closure Business Unit (CBU). Led by Sterling Robertson, the team included Soni Blanco, DOE; Bill Brasel, Parsons Engineering; and WSRC's Mark Mahoney, Bill Van Pelt, George Matis, Wyatt Clark and Rick Runnels.

The team's primary tool is a

SRS IN BRIEF

Leach and Tuttel receive achievement awards

Two SRS employees were honored with achievement awards from the Energy Facility Contractors Group (EFCOG) in recognition of noteworthy contributions to EFCOG or the Department of Energy (DOE).

Fred Leach, Savannah River National Laboratory's Manager of Quality Assurance, received the award as leader of the contractor team that developed an innovative approach to deal with the issue of significant welding program break-downs across the DOE contractor community.

Dave Tuttel was the co-lead of a team tasked by the EFCOG Board of Directors to determine the feasibility of establishing a single DOE complex-wide Supplier Evaluation Program similar to the program used within the commercial nuclear industry.

EFCOG is a volunteer organization, directed by senior-level executives from DOE contractors, sustained by working level personnel from member contractors, and supported and funded by DOE, which promotes excellence in all aspects of the operation, management and integration of DOE facilities.



Fred Leach (left) and Dave Tuttel recently received achievement awards from the Energy Facility Contractors Group.

SRS School-to-Work participant named Student of the Year

For nearly a year, Josh Heyward has served as a School-to-Work intern for the Westinghouse Savannah River Company. A 2005 South Aiken High graduate and Student Body president, Heyward works for the Savannah River National Laboratory Engineering Equipment Section. Heyward was recently named the Carolina Careers Secondary Student of the Year for South Carolina at the 2005 Education and Business Summit in Greenville because of his exceptional performance within the School-to-Work program and his outstanding leadership skills exhibited at school and work. He also received similar honors from the Aiken Tech Prep/School-to-Work Consortium. As a result of this hands-on experience using mechanical engineering concepts and application of classroom education, Heyward's decision to major in mechanical engineering was confirmed.



Former SRS School-to-work student



SRS School-to-Work student Josh Heyward and his awards.

The site's School-to-Work Program combines classroom academics with supervised work experience allowing the students to relate what they learn in class to the technical requirements of work. Internships and placement services are provided to these students, who gain marketable skills and valuable experience. This program is for career-oriented high school and technical college students and is coordinated by the WSRC Education Outreach Programs Department.

SRS IN BRIEF

Deactivation and decommissioning total reaches 150 buildings



SRS heavy equipment demolishes building 713-A. Over 100 buildings remain to be demolished within the next 15 months.

Canyon, each will be inspected and then enter the extensive demolition process.

And in A Area, significant risk reduction is being realized as 1950s-era buildings are demolished and their industrial hazards — such as asbestos — are eliminated.

With the completion of nine buildings in June, the number of buildings demolished in this contract period reached 150.

The most recent buildings to be demolished are 745-A, 719-2A, 713-2A, 713-A, 716-A, 999-D, 730-F, 647-G and 605-M.

Demolition work for this contract period is now complete in three areas — T Area, E Area and G Area.

Over 100 more buildings remain to be demolished in the next 15 months.

Intensive deactivation and decommissioning work continues in the site's focus areas — A Area, D Area, F Area and M Area.

In D Area, the only remaining facilities are the distillation towers and their support facilities. In M Area, asbestos abatement work is ongoing on the 321-M complex. In F Area, as buildings are released by F



The SRS Update is published monthly by Westinghouse Savannah River Company. If you have questions or comments about any of the articles, call 803.952.9583.
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